IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI HATTIESBURG DIVISION

STATE FARM FIRE AND CASUALTY COMPANY and STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY

PLAINTIFFS

VS.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:07-cv-188 (DCB) (MTP)

JIM HOOD, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

DEFENDANT

ORDER

This cause is before the Court <u>sua sponte</u> to address the issues of abstention and subject matter jurisdiction. As raised in the defendant's motion to dismiss, the Supreme Court has held that in the interest of comity and federalism, federal courts may not enjoin pending state court criminal proceedings except under exceedingly rare and extraordinary circumstances. <u>Younger v. Harris</u>, 401 U.S. 37, 41 (1971). Furthermore, even if the Court is not required to abstain, subject matter jurisdiction remains a prerequisite to the issuance of an injunction. Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the parties be prepared to address the abstention and subject matter jurisdiction issues at the hearing set for November 1, 2007.

SO ORDERED, this the 29^{th} day of October, 2007.

s/ David Bramlette
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE